

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-16

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R 040310Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9417

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 5593

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EGEN, PFOR, PK, AF

SUBJECT: DIFFICULTIES OF PAKISTANI NATIONALS IN AFGHANISTAN

REF: KABUL 5023

SUMMARY: IN WAKE OF HELICOPTER EPISODE (REFTEL) AND HEATING UP OF RHETORIC BETWEEN AFGHANISTAN AND PAKISTAN, PAKISTANI NATIONALS RESIDING AND WORKING IN AFGHANISTAN ARE EXPERIENCING INCREASED DIFFICULTIES WITH AFGHAN GOVERNMENT. EMBASSY HAS NOTED THESE DIFFICULTIES FOR PAKISTANI NATIONALS EMPLOYED BY US MISSION AND AMERICAN ACTIVITIES IN KABUL. SUCH DIFFICULTIES ARE COMPOUNDED FOR PAKISTANI BUSINESSMEN WHO ARE UNDER INCREASED PRESSURES IN THEIR EFFORTS TO OPERATE IN AFGHANISTAN. END SUMMARY.

1. THE RECENT HEATING UP OF INVECTIVE BETWEEN AFGHANISTAN AND PAKISTAN CULMINATING IN HELICOPTER EPISODE (REFTEL) CURRENTLY IS REFLECTED IN INCREASED PRESSURES EXERTED AGAINST PAKISTANI NATIONALS RESIDING AND WORKING IN AFGHANISTAN. IN US COMMUNITY, CONFIDENTIAL

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HANDFUL OF PAKISTANIS WORKING FOR COMMISSARY AND COMMUNITY

ASSOCIATION HAVE BEEN TOLD BY GOA THEY WILL BE GIVEN EXIT PERMITS BUT WILL NOT RPT NOT BE PERMITTED REENTER COUNTRY. ALSO, THERE EVERY INDICAION RESIDENCE AND WORK PERMITS WILL NOT RPT NOT BE RENEWED FOR PAKISTANI NATIONALS WHEN THEY EXPIRE.

2. OTHER INSTANCES THESE INCREASED PRESSURES AND HARRASSMENTS REFLECTED IN RESIDENT PAKISTANI BUSINESS COMMUNITY. RESIDENT MANAGER CASTROL OIL LUBRICATING PLANT WHICH HAS PRIVATE U.S. SHAREHOLDING (FALCON OIL COMPANY OF NEW YORK) HAS RECOMMENDED HE BE REPLACED BY BRITISH NATIONAL EMPLOYEE OF COMPANY WHO ARRIVED THIS WEEK. RESIDENT PAKISTANI MANAGER HAD EXTENDED HIS STAY HERE UNTIL JUNE, 1975, BUT NOW EXPECTS LEAVE AFGHANISTAN NO LATER THAN DECEMBER, 1974.

3. OTHER PAKISTANI BUSINESSMEN REPORT INSTANCES DISCRIMINATION AGAINST THEIR BUSINESSES BY GOA OFFICIALS RANGING FROM LACK OF EQUITABLE TREATMENT IN IMPORT OF RAW MATERIALS TO QUESTIONING AND HARRASSMENT THEIR AFGHAN NATIONAL EMPLOYEES FOR WORKING FOR PAKISTANI-MANAGED COMPANIES. AFGHAN EMPLOYEES REPORT BEING CALLED INTO GOA MINISTRY OF INTERIOR AT REGULAR INTERVALS TO REPORT ON THEIR ACTIVITIES AND THOSE OF PAKISTANI MANAGERS. PAKISTANI MANAGERS NO LONGER DEAL DIRECTLY WITH GOA OFFICIALS BUT SEND SENIOR AFGHAN EMPLOYEES FOR ANY DISCUSSIONS OR NEGOTIATIONS.

4. EMBASSY COMMENT: EMBASSY FOLLOWS A COMMON POLICY TOWARDS ALL THIRD COUNTRY NATIONALS (TCN'S) EMPLOYED BY US MISSION AFGHANISTAN. WE PROVIDE ALL APPROPRIATE SUPPORT IN DEALING WITH LOCAL GOA AUTHORITIES ON WORK PERMITS, ETC. WE HAVE SEVERAL PAKISTAN TCN'S WORKING ON CONTRACT WITH THE COMMISSARY AND THE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION. IF AND WHEN PAKISTAN (OR ANY TCN) WORK PERMITS EXPIRE, WE WILL WEIGH NEED FOR SERVICES, EVALUATE THE QUALITY OF THE WORK PERFORMANCE AND APPLY OR NOT APPLY FOR WORK PERMIT EXTENSIONS BASED ON THIS REVIEW.

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